

Message Text

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ORIGIN SCSE-00

INFO OCT-01 SCA-01 L-02 PPTE-00 ARA-10 ISO-00 /014 R

DRAFTED BY SCA:SCS:LELANE:GJL

APPROVED BY SCA:SCS:LELANE

L/SCA - MR. KERLY(SUB)

----- 054648

R 061412Z FEB 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

UNCLAS STATE 027100

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CDES (TIKAL AIR CRASH)

SUBJECT: PREPARATION OF FS-192

REF: GUATEMALA 601

1. IF IT IS CONFIRMED THAT GUATEMALAN AUTHORITIES WILL NOT ISSUE DEATH CERTIFICATES IN NAMES OF EACH INDIVIDUAL ABOARD PLANE, EMBASSY SHOULD ATTEMPT TO OBTAIN DOCUMENT FROM SOME OFFICIAL GUATEMALAN SOURCE ATTESTING THAT EACH OF THE INDIVIDUALS WAS KNOWN TO BE ABOARD A LOCKHEED LODESTAR L-18 AIRCRAFT REGISTERED IN GUATEMALA WITH THE DESIGNATION TG-HTM WHICH CRASHED AT TIKAL, EL PETEN, AT APPROXIMATELY 4:30 P.M. ON DECEMBER 28, 1974, WITH NO SURVIVORS.

2. DEPARTMENT IS OF OPINION THAT ABOVE-DESCRIBED DOCUMENT TOGETHER WITH CERTIFICATE OF IDENTIFICATION WHICH NEW YORK CITY MEDICAL EXAMINER DR. DOMINICK DI MAIO HAS AGREED TO ISSUE WILL BE ADEQUATE DOCUMENTATION OF THE FACT, TIME, AND PLACE OF DEATH AND PERMIT ISSUANCE OF FS-192'S.

3. IF ATTESTATION BASED ON PASSENGER MANIFEST, DEPARTMENT RECOGNIZES CASE OF ANDREA FRANK MAY PRESENT SPECIAL PROBLEM. IN HER CASE, AFFIDAVIT OF PERSON WHO BOTH KNEW HER AND WITNESSED HER BOARD PLANE SHOULD BE SOUGHT.

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4. WHEN FS-192'S PREPARED, DEPARTMENT SUGGESTS CAUSE OF DEATH BE LISTED AS "RESULT OF AIRPLANE CRASH", DISPOSITION

OF REMAINS BE STATED "SENT BY AIR FROM GUATEMALA CITY ON DECEMBER 31, 1974, TO OFFICE OF THE MEDICAL EXAMINER, NEW YORK CITY, FOR IDENTIFICATION"; AND UNDER REMARKS "ABOARD PLANE WHICH CRASHED WITH NO SURVIVORS AT TIKAL, GUATEMALA, ON DECEMBER 28, 1974, AS ATTESTED BY (NAME AND TITLE OF ATTESTING AUTHORITY). REMAINS IDENTIFIED BY DR. DOMINICK J. DI MAIO, MEDICAL EXAMINER OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK (CERTIFICATE ATTACHED)".

5. VERIFICATION OF CITIZENSHIP IS BEING SOUGHT FROM PASSPORT RECORDS FOR THOSE VICTIMS KNOWN TO HAVE BEEN ISSUED PASSPORTS. IN ALL OTHER CASES, FAMILY MEMBERS OR LEGAL REPRESENTATIVE HAS BEEN REQUESTED TO FURNISH DEPARTMENT WITH EVIDENCE OF CITIZENSHIP. DEPARTMENT WILL LATER ADVISE EMBASSY OF CITIZENSHIP STATUS OF EACH INDIVIDUAL.

6. DEPARTMENT SUGGESTS, IF EMBASSY HAS NOT ALREADY DONE SO, THAT IT TRANSMIT COPY OF INVENTORY AND REQUEST FOR INSTRUCTIONS RE DISPOSITION TO NOK OR LEGAL REPRESENTATIVE OF EACH PERSON WHOSE EFFECTS IT HOLDS. THIS ACTION SHOULD NOT AWAIT ISSUANCE OF FS-192.

7. EMBASSY REQUESTED INFORM DEPARTMENT ITS VIEWS AS TO FEASIBILITY ACTION OUTLINED ABOVE. KISSINGER

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